

I am proud of my record as a strong supporter of animal rights introducing and cosponsoring a variety of legislation to end the abuse of animals and conserve our natural resources. I believe it is our responsibility as a civilized society to treat animals fairly and humanely and to protect their habitats, and I will continue to fight for their well-being.

### **Bills I have authored during the 111th Congress (2009-2010):**

- [H.R. 556](#) - Southern Sea Otter Recovery and Research Act - Aids the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's current recovery efforts for Southern Sea Otters by creating a team of sea otter-experts to review scientific proposals to study recent trends in the sea otters' population, as well as providing funding for such studies. This bill was passed by the House in July 2009 and was introduced in the Senate in September 2009.

### **Bills I have cosponsored during the 111th Congress:**

- [H.R. 3710](#) - Refuge from Cruel Trapping Act - Ends the use of body-gripping traps in the National Wildlife Refuge System.
- [H.R. 3480](#) - Bear Protection Act of 2009 - Prohibits the importation, exportation and interstate trade of certain bear parts and items.
- [H.R. 3381](#) - Protect America's Wildlife Act of 2009 - Establishes additional prohibitions on shooting wildlife from aircraft.
- [H.R. 2480](#) - Truth in Fur Labeling Act of 2009 - Closes a loophole in federal law that allows some animal fur garments to go unlabeled if the value of the fur is less than \$150.
- [H.R. 2062](#) - Migratory Bird Treaty Act Penalty and Enforcement Act of 2009 - Amends the Migratory Bird Treaty Act to provide for penalties and enforcement for intentionally taking protected avian species.
- [H.R. 1326](#) - Great Ape Protection Act of 2009 - Ends the use of chimpanzees and all great apes in invasive research, retires all federally owned chimpanzees to sanctuaries, ends federal funding for such research anywhere in the world and offers other protections for animals in research.
- [H.R. 1018](#) - Amends Wild Free-Roaming Horses and Burros Act - Would improve the management and long-term health of wild free-roaming horses and burros.
- [H.R. 80](#) - Captive Primate Safety Act - Makes it unlawful for a person to import, export, transport, sell, receive, acquire or purchase a live animal of any prohibited wildlife species in interstate or foreign commerce (i.e., for pet trade purposes).

**Important actions during the 111th Congress:**

- I signed a letter to the Secretary of the Army calling for an end to the use of live animals during the training of military medical personnel.